



For an application form
please contact:

Postgraduate Admissions
Faculty of Arts
University of Plymouth
6 Portland Villas
Plymouth PL4 8AA

tel: +44 (0) 1752 238106
email: artspostgrad@plymouth.ac.uk

If you need this leaflet in a
larger format please contact us.

www.plymouth.ac.uk/arts



Faculty of Arts

MA Contemporary Designer Maker

1 year full-time (2 years part-time)



faculty of arts
MA Contemporary Designer Maker
1 year full-time (2 years part-time)

This exciting new MA provides an opportunity for individuals to develop design ideas through an intimate knowledge of materials and making processes. Materials and craft skills are not seen as an end in themselves. Through experimentation, research and innovation, process and content are considered as interdependent and mutually enriching within a global context. You may be interested in challenging established methods or wish to explore the opportunities that cutting edge technology makes available.

The programme is designed for highly motivated graduates and practitioners to develop research ideas, individual pathways and philosophies through study and knowledge directly related to processes and materials. It provides the opportunity to engage in critical contemporary designer maker issues and discussions with staff and other students.

Programme Structure

The programme follows four core modules that underpin and provide a foundation for the major project. A series of lectures, seminars, and tutorials are scheduled to enable opportunities to develop, both specific designer maker skills and a more generic creative awareness. Workshops are available everyday where you are encouraged to develop and refine their work. You must achieve 180 credits (four taught modules plus an MA project) for an MA award.

Core Modules

At masters level you work autonomously, learning specific skills and developing an understanding of your chosen field. The core modules are designed to develop individual practice, critical and theoretical understanding.

Defining Direction Through Practice (30 credits)

Through the investigation of current debates, contemporary culture, a negotiated studio project and seminars individuals will identify, formulate and position their own designer maker practice. The module includes discussion and debate concerning the role of the designer maker in society and the contribution that their artefacts make to contemporary culture.

Design Thinking (30 credits)

This module explores contemporary critical contexts of applied design research, with an emphasis on the way design is described, shaped and influential. This will include the examination of artefacts and products as well as their broader, social, cultural, economic and technical implications, such as consumption and sustainability with the process of design.

Multiples and The Maker (30 credits)

This module investigates the potentials & opportunities of batch/multiple production associated with designer maker/craft practice. It explores how makers might consider producing multiples or 'families' of objects and develop a body of work with these issues as a primary focus.

External Contexts (30 Credits)

Based on a negotiated studio project, this module focuses on issues around external contexts and increased development of your professional practice and profile. This may include the design of products/artefacts for an exhibition, a work placement or site-specific work.

Major Project (60 credits)

This independent study module provides the opportunity to develop an MA project or a combined project and dissertation. The practice-based project encourages innovation in addition to refinement of practice and skills and will result in a body of work on a selected topic, which will be underpinned by relevant research, analysis, critical reflection and professional preparation.

Assessment is based on an evaluation of the level of achievement for each module, in relation to the aims and learning outcomes and demonstrates that you have achieved these learning outcomes. Each module descriptor has sections showing the assessment mode and criteria used, learning outcomes and assessed skills elements. In addition to providing evidence that the learning outcomes have been achieved, you will be expected to complete a self-evaluation and assessment profile.

Key Staff for 2007

The MA programme draws on the expertise of the Contemporary Designer Maker subject team, particularly in the supervision of the MA projects, visiting lecturers and professionals with in the designer maker field. All staff are actively involved as designers, makers and researchers, designing, exhibiting, producing within the UK and abroad, and contributing to conferences and other events.

- **Brian Adams MDes RCA**
- **Peter Davis MA RCA**
- **Roberto Fraquelli MDes RCA**
- **Polly Macpherson MA CARDIFF**
- **Roy Tam MDes RCA**

Entry Requirements and Application

You will normally need a good honours degree or its equivalent in a relevant subject or appropriate professional experience. Overseas students whose first language is not English will need to present evidence of proficiency through an IELTS score of at least 6.5.

